



SIBC NEWS

November 2023

Welcome to the first edition of the SIBC newsletter for the 2023/24 season.

If there is anything you would like to see included in future newsletters, or news items for the website or local press, please contact me (Martin Spencer) either via e-mail: martinspencer1988@gmail.com or mobile telephone: 07540 066241.

World Championship Qualification For Annie

Congratulations to Annie Dunham who has qualified to Potters Leisure Resort in the Ladies World Matchplay. On Sunday 8th October 2023, Annie travelled to Desborough (Maidenhead) to take part in the qualifiers which was full of internationals from across the British Isles. Annie beat Jacqueline Henderson in straight sets (7-5, 8-2) before beating former Commonwealth Games gold medalist Sian Honor also in straight sets (4-3, 7-1). In the final qualifying match, Annie played against good friend and fellow England international Kylie Jenkins from Egham. An excellent start saw Annie take the first set 11-2 but the second set saw Kylie 7-5 ahead going into the nail biting final end. Annie held her nerve to score two shots, win the match 1.5-0.5 and book her place in the Ladies World Matchplay.

After qualifying, Annie said: "It's been a dream of mine to play on the portable rink since I was about 12 years old and used to go to Potters on holiday. Even if I never get there again, I am over the moon to be able to realise my goal and have a chance to experience the event."

It does not get any easier for Annie though as she will play defending and five time champion, Katherine Rednall but whatever the result, it will certainly be a match not to be missed. Annie will also partner Scotland's David Gourlay in the World Mixed Pairs. Annie and David will play mixed pairs on Friday 12th January 2024 against defending champions Ceri-Ann Glen and Stewart Anderson and Annie will play Katherine in the singles on Sunday 14th January 2024.



Live coverage of the world championships can be found on YouTube. Good luck Annie!



Meet Your Management Committee for the 2023/24 Season

Men's President	Kevin Ekins
Ladies President	Julie Hicks
Chairman	Simon Lilley
Secretary	Jenny Horner
League Secretary	David Nunney
Fixture Secretary	Graham Smith
Treasurer	Anthony Cronin
Club Captain & Competition Secretary	Graham Smith
Publicity Officer	Martin Spencer
Club Development	Tony Schorah
Under 30 Co-Ordinator	Colin Wilson
Bowls Co-Ordinator	Graham Hicks
Committee Members	Dominic McVittie, Tony Schorah & Alan Tokley

Our new men's club president would like to welcome you back with the following message:

Welcome to you all to the new season at Spalding Indoor Bowls Club. We return looking forward to new successes and personal improvement at all levels of the club, whilst remembering those unable to join us this year.

It is a great honour for me to be your president, having been a member of this club for 37 years. I hope that we can strive to support the club and each other in all that we do. All ages, all abilities, both on the green and off the green. Members playing bowls as fun exercise, for social company, to learn a new sport or competitively at varying levels. Every member is as important as the next and we should support each other and celebrate improvement, as well as trophies.

Whilst last year wasn't our most successful on the green in terms of winning trophies, it was good in other ways for the club in general. It is important that this year we build on this to further improve our club. Most notably the kitchen hatch refreshments, fun social events and new ways to fundraise. Please support all of these as we try out more new initiatives.

I hope your season brings you success. That means enjoyment for all, personal improvement for many, and for some people trophies.

Club Competitions

Club competition entries will be open soon and are due in by Christmas. Entry forms will be available on the competition notice board soon. The club needs your support so please give them a go. They will run after New Year right the way through to April.

Our club captain and competition secretary, Graham Smith, works extremely hard to organise and run club competitions however, without your support, they will slowly die out.



Please remember, prize money has been reinstated and the entry fee will be £1 per player per competition. A handicap system will be added to more competitions this season to help level up each game. Men's and mixed pairs will now have a handicap, as well as family pairs and mixed fours.

The Quintet will be also be played this season again the week commencing Monday 15th April 2024. This is a great competition - it doesn't matter what level you play at. Please give it a go!

Weekend closing times have forced us to make the decision to scrap finals weekend. We will instead be having a finals week, Monday to Thursday and it is hoped that presentation night will be the Friday night. Finals week will commence on Monday 22nd April 2024.

300 Club

You may have seen the posters about the 300 club or be one of the almost 50 people who have joined already. You may have even been one of our lucky winners with the biggest win so far being £65. But if you haven't joined in and want to know more, please keep reading.

What is the 300 Club?

It is a lottery that the club are running. It costs £2 per week which is taken directly from your bank account each Wednesday. Half of the money goes to the club and half of the money goes into the prize fund. There are two prizes each week with the split as 50% club, 35% 1st prize and 15% 2nd prize. If there are 100 entries, then the prize split would be £100 club, £70 1st prize and £30 2nd prize. Any rollovers boost the 1st and 2nd prize the next week with the club having none of the rollover money. The draw takes place down the club each Tuesday night with the drawer and the witness being different people each week. The winnings are then paid into your bank account.

What is the money for?

The money is going into club funds to be used on anything that the committee decides necessary. We thought it was better to be flexible than keep having to announce different projects. The money could be used for things such as repairs/improvements to the scoreboards or other club equipment, new equipment to further develop the kitchen hatch, new bowls for juniors or beginners, coaching equipment, improved prize money for leagues, etc. Anything that the committee thinks will improve the club for you, the members.

How do I join?

In an evening, please speak to Dan Mills or Kevin Ekins. Unfortunately, we are busy working during the day so if you only play in the daytime, please speak to one of the other committee members who you do see. You just need your bank card and we can help to fill the form in.

After five draws, the club has already benefitted by £164 (thank you). Five of you have won prizes and one person has even won two prizes. Plus, it's been a bit of fun. Finally, as we say to everyone - Good luck and hope you win!

This is a great and easy way to raise money for the club but we need your support.

Important Notice

It has been brought to the management committee's attention that sweet wrappers, general small bits of rubbish, chewing gum and strangely, coloured thread have been found around the green and in the ditches. Chewing gum and debris will damage the carpet.

Please can we all be vigilant around eating and drinking near the green or on the carpet. It's extremely expensive to replace and we can of course protect it by preventing this. Let's help each other keep the club nice and tidy for us all to enjoy!



Social Update



Dom's Crown Night - Friday 1st December 2023 - 6pm

After last year's success, Dom's Crown Night is back by popular demand. Dom will bring his experience from the crown green world and his organised chaos will no doubt ensure a fun night is had by all.

The kitchen hatch will be open. Burgers and refreshments will be available.

Please come and support this event and give it a go. Further details of how to participate can be found on the red notice board.

We are also going to run a **Bowls Cricket** evening on Friday 12th January 2024 as well as a **Quiz Night** to be arranged. Further details on these to follow at a later date.

National and County Team Update

Our national team events have started very well this season. In the mixed top club, we have already progressed through three rounds with wins against Sleaford and Peterborough. Unfortunately, Horncastle had to concede the third round due to flooding damage however, we are pleased to hear that this is now well under control and getting sorted. We now play Huntingdon at home on Sunday 19th November 2023. In the Denny Cup, our men have had wins against Stamford and Grantham whilst our women have also got through two rounds in the Yetton Trophy having beaten Sleaford and Charnwood. We will now play Boston in the Denny Cup and Nottingham or Barwell in the Yetton Trophy, both to be played on Saturday 18th November 2023. A special mention also for 16 year old Jack Wells who made his Denny Cup debut in the last round against Grantham. Well done Jack - well deserved. In the Egham Trophy, a competition where we came agonisingly close to a place in the final last season, we have had wins against Stamford and Boston before playing Grantham in the third round on Sunday 12th November 2023. Finally, our under 30s have made a good start to their title defence as they beat Boston and now play Lincoln or Sleaford on Saturday 25th November 2023. A list of forthcoming national team fixtures are as follows:

O60 Double Rink v Stamford - Tuesday 7th November 2023

Egham Trophy v Grantham - Sunday 12th November 2023

Denny Cup v Boston - Saturday 18th November 2023

Yetton Trophy v Barwell - Saturday 18th November 2023

Top Club v Huntingdon - Sunday 19th November 2023

Mason Trophy v Peterborough - Friday 24th November 2023

U30 Double Triples v Lincoln or Sleaford - Saturday 25th November 2023

We have also made a good start in county leagues. Our men have won two out of two and are second in the county south division, one two points behind Grantham. Our mixed team have had an impressive start and are already 16 points clear at the top of the south division after three games. Our Trudy Bates ladies are also top of the league after two games and hope to defend the title they won last year. Unfortunately, we haven't started so well in the over 60s county league with one win from three games. A new under 18 Aussie pairs county league has also started this season and we are proud to have three teams entered. We have always prided ourselves on our junior section so it's great to see them playing at this level.

Remaining County League Fixtures For 2023/24 Season

Trudy Bates

Thursday 23rd November 2023 - Grantham (A) - 10.30am
Wednesday 13th December 2023 - Stamford (A) - 10.30am
Thursday 4th January 2024 - Skegness (A) - 10.30am
Thursday 1st February 2024 - Boston (A) - 9.45am
Thursday 7th March 2024 - Skegness (H) - 10.30am
Thursday 14th March 2024 - Grantham (H) - 10.30am

Men's County League

Saturday 11th November 2023 - Boston "B" (A) - 2pm
Saturday 25th November 2023 - Stamford "B" (H) - 2pm
Saturday 2nd December 2023 - Grantham (H) - 2pm
Saturday 13th January 2024 - Stamford "B" (A) - 2.10pm
Sunday 4th February 2024 - Grantham (A) - 2pm
Saturday 24th February 2024 - Boston "B" (H) - 2pm
Saturday 9th March 2024 - Stamford "A" (H) - 2pm
Saturday 23rd March 2024 - Boston "A" (H) - 2pm

Mixed County League

Sunday 19th November 2023 - Grantham (H) - 2pm
Saturday 6th January 2024 - Grantham (A) - 2pm
Sunday 18th February 2024 - Stamford (H) - 2pm
Saturday 2nd March 2024 - Boston (A) - 2pm
Saturday 16th March 2024 - Skegness (H) - 2pm

Over 60s County League

Thursday 9th November 2023 - Lincoln "A" (H) - 10.30am
Wednesday 22nd November 2023 - Stamford (A) - 10.30am
Thursday 21st December 2023 - Boston "A" (A) - 10am
Thursday 4th January 2024 - Lincoln "A" (A) - 10.30am
Thursday 25th January 2024 - Stamford (H) - 10.30am
Thursday 22nd February 2024 - Boston "A" (H) - 10am
Thursday 7th March 2024 - Boston "B" (A) - 10am
Thursday 21st March 2024 - Sleaford (H) - 10.30am
Thursday 4th April 2024 - Grantham (H) - 10.30am

Under 18 County League

Saturday 25th November 2023
Sutton Tigers v Spalding Hurricane (10.30am), Spalding Tornado v Spalding Whirlwind (10am)
Saturday 16th December 2023
Sutton Lions v Spalding Hurricane, Lincoln Spitfires v Spalding Whirlwind (both 10.30am),
Spalding Tornado v Sutton Panthers (10am)
Saturday 20th January 2024
Lincoln Bombers v Spalding Hurricane, Sutton Panthers v Spalding Whirlwind (both 10.30am),
Spalding Tornado v Lincoln Spitfires (10am)
Saturday 10th February 2024
Spalding Hurricane v Sutton Tigers, Spalding Whirlwind v Spalding Tornado (both 10am)
Saturday 16th March 2024
Spalding Hurricane v Sutton Lions, Spalding Whirlwind v Lincoln Spitfires (both 10am), Sutton
Panthers v Spalding Tornado (10.30am)

If you fancy a game in a county league team, please do get in touch with the respective captain who we are sure will only be too happy to try and accommodate!



Remaining Friendly Fixtures For 2023/24 Season

Sunday 12th November 2023 - Melton (A) - 2pm
Sunday 26th November 2023 - Louth (A) - 2pm
Sunday 10th December 2023 - Lincs VPs (H) - 2pm
Saturday 16th December 2023 - Club Christmas Party - 2pm
Sunday 14th January 2024 - Sleaford (A) - 2pm
Sunday 21st January 2024 - Huntingdon (A) - 2pm
Sunday 28th January 2024 - Terrington St. Clements (H) - 2pm
Saturday 24th February 2024 - Peterborough (A) - 2pm
Sunday 17th March 2024 - Boston (A) - 2pm
Sunday 24th March 2024 - Grantham (A) - 2pm
Sunday 7th April 2024 - Lincoln (A) - 1.30pm

On Sunday 11th February 2024, we are also proud to host the Ladies Midland Counties match between Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire. This will start at 1pm so please come and show your support to the ladies from both counties.

Christmas Greetings

As there will not be another newsletter published before, the Management Committee would like to wish all members and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

